

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 5 are canceled. Claims 3, 4 and 6-20 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 6, and 20 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicants' invention. No new matter is added. The features in the claims as amended were present in the originally filed specification.

Claims 7, 9, 11 and 13-19 are indicated in the Office Action of July 30, 2003 as being allowable. In addition, claims 2-4 and 10 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the features of the base claim.

Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claim 6 is allowable as it includes the feature of claim 2 which is indicated by the Examiner as being allowable. Claims 3 and 4, 8, 10, 12 are, in turn, allowable since they depend from claim 6.

It is submitted that claim 20 is allowable since the claim as amended includes the features of claim 2 which the Examiner indicates is allowable.

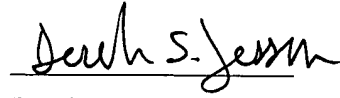
CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants' present invention, as recited in the amended claims now more clearly and particularly, is patentable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections in this case is hereby respectfully requested.

If further matters remain in connection with this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned representative to resolve them.

Respectfully submitted,

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